

## **BACKGROUND**

The TACA is a statutorily mandated committee, Section 14506.5 of the Government Code states:

“The Chairman (of the Commission) shall appoint a Technical Advisory Committee on Aeronautics, after consultation with members of the aviation industry, airport operators, pilots, and other aviation interest groups and experts, as appropriate. This Technical Advisory Committee on Aeronautics shall give technical advice to the Commission on the full range of aviation issues to be considered by the Commission.”

The TACA has proven to be of great value to the Commission in carrying out its responsibility to advise the Governor and the Legislature on state policies and plans for aviation programs in California. The Commission’s primary responsibilities regarding aeronautics, include:

- advising and assisting the Legislature and the Secretary of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency in formulating and evaluating policies and plans for aeronautics programs;
- developing recommendations on state aviation program funding, including establishing appropriate tax code sections for aviation fuel, reviewing the equity and adequacy of state aviation tax rates, and direction of existing taxes paid by the aviation industry to aviation purposes;
- providing recommendations on aviation legislation to the Legislature and Administration;
- adoption of the California Aviation System Plan (CASP), a comprehensive plan defining state policies and funding priorities for general aviation and commercial airports in California;
- adoption of the California Aid to Airports Matching Rate;
- adoption and allocation of funds under the three-year Aeronautics Program, which directs the use of State Aeronautics Account funds to:
  1. provide a part of the local match required to receive federal Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grants; and
  2. fund capital outlay projects at public-use airports through the California Aid to Airports Program (CAAP) for airport rehabilitation, safety and capacity improvements; and
- cooperating with Caltrans and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to coordinate state and federal aviation programs.